

IFW



Serial No. 10/645,845

Docket No.: 1572.1156

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoon-young KIM, et al.

Serial No. 10/645,845

Group Art Unit: 3744

Confirmation No. 8146

Filed: August 22, 2003

Examiner: Ali, Mohammad M.

For: REFRIGERATOR

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action requiring an Election of Species mailed on August 8, 2004 and having a shortened period for response set to expire on September 5, 2004, the following remarks are provided.

I. Provisional Election of Species

Applicants provisionally elect Species A: FIGS. 1-4, to which claims 1-10, 14-36, and 40-45 are drawn, in response to the preliminary election requirement set forth in the Office Action.

II. Generic Claims

Applicants note that since claims 1, 14 and 20 read on all of the Species discussed in the Office Action, claims 1, 14, and 20 are believed to be generic. Therefore, if claims 1, 14, and 20 are found to be allowable, then all claims depending therefrom should be examined together.

III. Applicants Traverse the Requirement

Insofar as Species B, C, D are concerned, it is believed that claims 11-13, 37-39, and 46-

48 are so closely related to claims 1-10, 14-36, and 40-45 that they should remain in the same application. Indeed, all of the claims in the application are drawn to a refrigerator. Further, there have been no references cited to show any necessity for requiring an election. It is believed, moreover, that evaluation of claims 11-13, 37-39, and 46-48 would not provide an undue burden upon the Examiner at this time in comparison with the additional expense and delay to Applicants in having to protect the additional subject matter recited claims 11-13, 37-39, and 46-48 by filing a divisional application.

III. Conclusion

Upon review of references involved in this field of technology, when considering that all of the claims in the application are directed to a refrigerator, and when all of the other various facts are taken into consideration, it is believed that upon reconsideration of the election requirement, all of the pending claims should be examined in the subject application.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our deposit account number 19-3935.

Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP



By: _____

Howard I. Levy
Registration No. 55.378

Date: September 7, 2004

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Ste. 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 434-1500